(d) So far, no negotiations between India and Nepal have been held regarding the route to be permitted by Nepal.

Non-availability of data regarding export of handloom products

1741. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that separate export data for the export of handloom products is not available from the year 2003-2004 due to the absence of separate ITC (HS) codes for them;

(b) if so, the reasons for removal of separate ITC codes for the handloom products; and

(c) what is the view of the handloom sector on this?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The revised ITC (HS) Codes adopted by the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC), Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance have been formulated for the textile items as a whole without any sectoral classification such as mill made, powerloom and handloom etc.

(c) Separate ITC (HS) codes for Handloom products are essential for segregation of trade data for Handlooms which will help formulate product specific and market specific promotion strategies for Handlooms. The Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms has already taken up the matter and has been constantly pursuing with the Ministry of Finance for allotment of separate ITC codes for the handloom products so as to facilitate monitoring of export trends for augmenting export from the country.

Problems of power loom owners

1742. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that powerloom owners are facing many problems in the country specially in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;